

**Introduced by Senator Kehoe**

February 22, 2005

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An act to repeal Section 25620.9 of the Public Resources Code, relating to public interest energy research.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1037, as introduced, Kehoe. Public interest energy research.

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to develop, implement, and administer the Public Interest Research, Development, and Demonstration Program. Existing law requires that the program include a full range of research, development, and demonstration activities that, as determined by the Energy Commission, are not adequately provided for by competitive and regulated markets. Existing law requires the Energy Commission to administer the program, as specified.

Existing law requires the Energy Commission to designate a panel of independent experts with special expertise in public interest energy research, development, and demonstration programs to evaluate projects under those programs, and to submit a preliminary and final report, as specified, to the Governor and the Legislature, making findings and recommendations for the implementation of this program. Existing law would repeal these provisions on July 1, 2006.

This bill, instead, would repeal the provisions as of January 1, 2006.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 25620.9 of the Public Resources Code is  
2 repealed.

3 ~~25620.9. (a) Not later than three months after the enactment~~  
4 ~~of this section, the commission shall designate a panel of~~  
5 ~~independent experts with special expertise in public interest~~  
6 ~~research, development, and demonstration programs. In order to~~  
7 ~~ensure continuity in the evaluation of the public interest energy~~  
8 ~~research, demonstration, and development projects, the~~  
9 ~~commission, when practicable, shall select experts that served on~~  
10 ~~prior independent review panels. The panel shall conduct a~~  
11 ~~comprehensive evaluation of the program established pursuant to~~  
12 ~~this chapter. The evaluation shall include a review of the public~~  
13 ~~value of programs established pursuant to this chapter, including,~~  
14 ~~but not limited to, the monetary and nonmonetary benefits to~~  
15 ~~public health and the environment, and the benefit of providing~~  
16 ~~funds for technology development that would otherwise not be~~  
17 ~~funded.~~

18 ~~(b) Not later than 15 months after the enactment of this~~  
19 ~~section, the panel designated pursuant to subdivision (a) shall~~  
20 ~~submit a preliminary report to the Governor and to the~~  
21 ~~Legislature on its findings and recommendations on the~~  
22 ~~implementation of the program established pursuant to this~~  
23 ~~chapter. The panel, not later than 30 months after the enactment~~  
24 ~~of this section, shall submit a final report to the Governor and to~~  
25 ~~the Legislature, including any additional findings and~~  
26 ~~recommendations regarding implementation of the program.~~

27 ~~(c) This section shall remain in effect only until July 1, 2006,~~  
28 ~~and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that~~  
29 ~~is enacted before January 1, 2007, deletes or extends that date.~~